

# The Missouri Herald

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## PLATFORM.

The columns of this newspaper are dedicated to the principles of the Democratic party as enunciated by Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson, practiced by Grover Cleveland and immortalized by Woodrow Wilson.

We commend and affirm the National and State platforms of 1920 and respectfully assert to the electorate that it is essential to the National and State well-being that all the Democratic nominees be actively supported in the coming campaign.

As member publishers we concur in the foregoing declared platform of the Southeast Missouri Democratic Press Association.

## POLITICAL WIND'S DRIFT

"Straws," as the old saying goes, "shows the drift of the wind." Just now there is a heavy, miasmatic political wind enveloping Pemiscot county, and the treatment of current events by "certain ones," show, as the straws, the force of the gale and from whence it cometh.

For instance, near Hayti last week, there was a terrible crime committed by two negro brutes. Three of the county papers printed the available facts. But did you notice that the Caruthersville Republican was as silent as the tomb? Have you not noticed before its invariable silence of similar crimes? Do you believe this is merely a happen-so? Do you believe The Republican is so easily "scooped" by all the other papers? You may entertain such a silly thought if you want to. That is the regard The Republican has for your intelligence.

However, as to all that, we have no concern. What The Republican does, or does not do, is immaterial to us, save for the significance it has upon a condition that is fast being fostered upon this entire community.

Whether you know it or not, whether you believe it or not Pemiscot county is being stealthily, but none-the-less surely NEGROIZED. Whether it be an organized scheme, or a mere response to a common instinct involving mutual political expediency, that impels unity of action all along the line, is a matter that may be of question, but the result is too tangible to be doubted that the negroes are being accorded special privileges and leniencies, that has been and are, denied the white race. That is the main thing that is causing them to flock here from their native haunts like droves of blackbirds.

Had white men committed such a dastardly crime—which, thank God is not a white man's crime—who believes that the full story would not have been emblazoned across The Republican's columns in boxcar letters? Or, had a white man done something to a negro, there would have been such a roar that would have started a local earthquake. Had Judge Williams used a shotgun instead of appealing to the law who believes the story would have not been pounced upon by The Republican like a duck upon a June bug?

In order to keep the records of our morality straight, it is well, sometimes, to keep track of the vehicles that jitney on the job of moulding public sentiment, that the unsuspecting voyager may ride upon his choice. Further than this we are not concerned. With the knowledge of the facts before you, the choice is yours, and the fruits, too, will be for your gathering.

Whitherto is this political wind drifting? How far has the drift already borne us toward the gulf of overpowering negroism? Who is thinking of, and seeing the apparently insignificant straws that flutter gently in the tiny whirlwinds, miniature reminders of the devastating cyclone that will surely follow in the wake?

## IN PERFECT ACCORD

There seems to be a certain tendency on the part of certain ones in Pemiscot county to intimidate legal voters in the county. We respectfully request that they read up the Federal laws regarding intimidation and also what happened to certain ones in Indiana not long ago who attempted the same tactics of intimidation.—Caruthersville Republican.

We heartily agree with The Republican and are glad to have it join us in protest against this "certain tendency of intimidation of voters on the part of certain ones in Pemiscot county." Legal voters, however, have never had any trouble in Pemiscot county and never will have. They have no fear of "intimidation," except as is calculated to arise from the toughs who would shove the illegal voters over them. There is, however, in Pemiscot county today a very numerous class of voters (?) we would like to see intimidated, even if it requires the sending of them to the penitentiary to do it. We refer to the cargoes of negroes being imported here for the alleged purpose of picking cotton. With this class the county is flooded from border to border, and still they are coming by train and boat loads. The entire county is black with them. They are coming from far and near. Like boll weevils and blackbirds, they have found here an unspoiled haven of refuge, where they may fill their bellies and bask in the sunshine that fills a land developed from a swamp by the white man's toil and energy. Every barn loft, cotton pen and out-house is stacked and piled with these black possibilities for Republican ballots. That we have "certain" white men here who will attempt the harvest, no one familiar with the situation coupled with past experience, can doubt in the least. And it

is not at all doubted but there will be plenty of "officers(?)" hanging around the voting places, as they have done in the past, with artillery buckled around their stomachs to keep these imported animals from being "intimidated(?)" as they proceed to rape the ballot box in the full light of day, in this, a hitherto white man's country. Indeed, if such a plot as cast its shadow hideously upon the background, is carried out, white Democratic voters might as well remain at home and save themselves from both the unpleasantness of "intimidation" and humiliation of such an orgy of rotten politics is calculated to bring.

## RAILROAD TURNS BANDIT

Having read how Jesse James and other bandits held up and robbed the trains, we have often feared in our travels we might fall victim to a regular outlaw escapade. Somehow, we escaped—until last Sunday night. We, with thirty or forty other passengers were held up at Steele, not by bandits but by the railroad company, who demanded and collected nearly double fare from there to Hayti. They have learned the Jesse James tricks and nab the purse of the passengers before the bandits come along. The advertised fare, posted on the walls of the depot at Steele is 44 cents from there to Hayti. When you ask for your tickets, if the train is local, the agent collects 80 cents. It is for your "ride" via Caruthersville, you are informed. You don't want to ride by Caruthersville; you want to get to Hayti. That makes no difference. The "ride" is what you pay for, or rather are "shaken down" for. A few years ago the railroad won an injunction suit against Caruthersville protesting against running certain of their through trains that way on the grounds that it was DISCRIMINATION toward the public to compel passengers to pay for the extra mileage over that route when the main line lessens the distance about half, and in that proportion also lessened the cost of the fare. Now the railroad company, since relieved by the courts, is doing that very thing. The greatest injustice, however, comes from the fact, the local trains bring hundreds of people from the south end of the county to Hayti in order to board the railroad's through trains for northern points, which do not stop at the smaller stations. Here is a case of long distance passengers being held up for a local ride which serves them no earthly purpose but to consume their time. It is the rankest sort of injustice. And if we are not badly mistaken, there is a Missouri statute forbidding railroad companies charging for the long way when they have two lines and run trains between two given local points. At least, there was such a law, if it has not mysteriously "disappeared." In their own interest the people of the south end of the county will do well to take the matter up with the Public Service Commission. There may be some relief.

## McCORMICK LINKS WOMEN WITH NEGROES

Missouri women will be interested in a recent statement credited to Senator Medill McCormick of Illinois, chairman of a committee facing the formidable task of electing Republicans to the Senate in November. McCormick, be it known, is one of his party's little group of "best minds" and as head of the Republican Senate Campaign Committee may be regarded as expressing the united view of his brothers who sit in the Upper House of Congress. Here is what he has to say regarding women in politics:

"Persons might vote for a woman for superintendent of schools, or for the town council, or for other little jobs, but when it comes to the Senate of the United States, they will not do it. Not even the women themselves will vote for a woman for the Senate."

In other words, Mr. McCormick doesn't think there is a woman in the United States of America capable of being Senator and minces no words in bluntly saying so. He places the woman on par with the Republican party's rating of the negro—good enough to vote the Republican ticket, but not good enough to hold any office of importance.

Senator McCormick's tirade, of course, is directed against Mrs. Oleson, Democratic nominee for the Senate from Minnesota, who is giving McCormick's friend, Senator Kellogg, the scare of his life. It is more than probable that the results in Minnesota will clearly demonstrate to McCormick that he is all wrong in his prediction. But whether Mrs. Oleson wins or loses, the slur of this Republican leader against the women of America will remain. Speaking, as he does, for the Republican cabal that now rules this land, he attempts to read women out of all party benefits in the grounds that she is man's mental inferior.

The quickest way for the American woman to punish McCormick for this infamous falsehood is to wreck his little campaign committee by voting against the candidates he backs in the November elections.

United, the American women can defeat this Republican cabal in a single day—the first Tuesday of next November.

## STRIKES

"You never can tell from where you sit," but at this distance from the center of things it looks like the strikers have come off second best, in both the coal mine and railroad controversies. After around five months of idleness and lean rations, the mine workers returned to the pits under exactly the same conditions as those prevailing in April, when they walked out. They went back at the old scale. They obtained no advantages in the matter of collective bargaining, in shorter hours or in any other particular. The coal miners gained nothing and they lost five months' pay, along with much of their prestige. The workers lost millions in wages; the operators lost millions in profits and industries lost over a billion through fuel shortage. Everybody lost; nobody gained and the public will pay the bill. In the railroad strike, which bids fair to be ended by the time this is read, the men have lost their standing. Seniority, which was the bone of contention, has gone by the board. Separate agreements with the various

railroads are bound to weaken the strength of the unions. Some of the strikers will not get their jobs back on any terms. Hence, as in the coal strike, the men have lost their time and wages; the railroads have lost revenue, and business has lost more than a billion dollars. Again, the public will pay. It would look like these two disastrous strikes would teach an economic and sociological lesson that the American people would not be quick to forget.—Blytheville (Ark.) Herald-News.

## DRIFTING

The Harding administration continues to drift. It drifts on the tariff on the soldiers' bonus and on all legislative and executive affairs, as well. Discussing the President's reply to Gov. Sproul in the matter of the coal strike, the New York World says:

"Mr. Harding is forever waiting for something to turn up, forever drifting along in the expectation that something may happen. He meddles just enough to muddle the situation and then complacently sits back and hopes for the best."

But the New York World is an independent newspaper with Democratic leanings and its judgment of the President, perhaps will not be accepted at full value by Republicans. If there is any doubt about the correctness of this judgment of the President, the following from Senator Borah, the fearless Progressive Republican Senator from Idaho, may resolve all doubts in this matter:

"Almost everyone realized that this was no time to revise the tariff. It is impossible to produce anything like a scientific tariff. And yet, with everybody knowing that, the tariff bill is permitted to drift out here. And so it goes—drift! It is impossible to get anywhere in Congress and it is impossible to get a negative or affirmative declaration from the White House. Conditions just move along until we get into this hopeless and absolutely deplorable mess."

But what do the people expect? With no leadership in the White House, no leadership in the United States Senate, no leadership in the House of Representatives; no plan, no program, no policy what can the Republican administration and the Republican Congress do but drift?—Potosi Independent.

## LINING UP NEGRO VOTES

The Honorable Perry W. Howard, a colored brother from Mississippi, is holding an appointment as assistant to Attorney General Daugherty at a salary of \$5,000 per year, but the business of prosecuting illegal trusts and monopolies is so slack that his services are not needed at the Department of Justice. Hence with a fine consideration for the real needs of a hard-pressed party, the Attorney General has loaned Howard to the Republican National Committee for the purpose of going through Ohio and Indiana seeking to line up the negro vote. Increasing education and developing thinking power are steadily removing the negro vote from its former status as a chattel of the Republican party. More and more the colored brother is becoming independent in thought and action. He is recognizing the fact that the party has accepted his support, without which it could not elect one president in twenty years, and gives him practically nothing in return. The race gets about three good appointments and a few dozen wash-room jobs for three millions of votes, without which votes the Republican party would present the spectacle of a dissolving view.

## SLIP IT INTO THE CONSTITUTION

The committee on the bill of rights has recommended to the Constitutional Convention a provision for the abolition of the death penalty for criminals. Is the convention trying to supply Missouri with its important laws for the next hundred years? Why make the capital punishment question a subject for constitutional disposal? The very fact that Missouri once abolished capital punishment and then restored it is a demonstration that the issue as public policy is by no means settled. At least one other state, Iowa, has done the same. So have foreign countries.

The State owes its convicted criminals no promise of immunity from the laws of the commonwealth. Such a promise is not proper part of a constitutional bill of rights. The method undertaken in Jefferson City is the common method of reformers, to-wit: Slip everything you can into the Constitution; then when the people want to change it they can't.

## HOPE OF THE WORLD

The League of Nations was and is the hope of the world. If the Democratic party, under whose administration the war was won and the League of Nations born, loses faith and courage, and sacrifices its splendid cause to cowardice and political expediency it will miss its greatest opportunity for service, and will also forfeit public confidence and respect. Its present leaders will be discredited, but the cause will march on. Worthier hands will carry the banner of world peace to victory.

In the run-off primary race in Mississippi for United States Senator held Tuesday of last week, Stephens defeated Vardaman by over 9,000. The primary election law in that state is such that Republicans cannot enter the Democratic primaries and choose candidates for the opposite party, hence Mississippi Democrats have made their own choice.

There is nothing in chemistry that tells how to mix sentiment and common-sense to the best advantage.

It is easy for some persons to make friends, but they can not keep them because they want to work them.

There is something wrong with the person who can not talk a thing over without losing his temper.

A husband's little fiction usually causes domestic friction.